

## THE GENUS TRACHYS IN THE UNITED STATES

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The genus *Trachys*, as currently defined, has not been reported previously in our fauna. However, between June 6 and June 18, 1948, the writer collected a series of *Trachys pygmaea* (Fab.) on hollyhock leaves in Rutherford, New Jersey. This species, indigenous to Europe, Asia Minor, and North Africa (Obenberger, 1937) has apparently been introduced and the indications are that it has become well-established.

The key to related North American genera provided by Nicolay and Weiss (1920: 137) may be modified for the inclusion of *Trachys* as follows:

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|---|---------------------|
| 1. Antennæ, in repose, received in a deep sinus in the prosternum; scutellum always evident .....             | 2                   |
| Antennæ free, at most held in a feeble impression in the prosternum; scutellum minute, scarcely visible ..... | <i>Trachys</i>      |
| 2. Scutellum small; tibiæ linear .....  | 3                   |
| Scutellum large, triangular; tibiæ dilated .....  | <i>Pachyschelus</i> |
| 3. Body ovate; prosternum obtuse behind .....   | <i>Brachys</i>      |
| Body elongate; prosternum pointed behind .....  | <i>Taphrocerus</i>  |

In form, *Trachys* resembles *Brachys* but the free antennae and minute scutellum will readily distinguish it. *T. pygmaea* may be easily recognized by the bright green or blue-green elytra and brilliant cupreous head and pronotum. The ventral surface is black with a cupreous lustre.

### References

- NICOLAY, A. S., AND H. B. WEISS. 1920. The group Traches in North America. Part I. The genera *Pachyschelus* and *Taphrocerus*. Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 28: 136-150, pl. 6.
- OBERBERGER, J. 1937. In: Junk, *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, pars 157: 1372-1376.